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Uncle Sam, Look Behind You.

The Negro First of All an American.

By JUDGE ALBION W. TOURGEE.

My study of the Negro began when he was still a slave, but when the fetters were already dropping from his hands. Fleeing from a Confederate prison, I sought his aid with confidence, and tested not only his faithfulness, but his sagacity. As a soldier, I saw him shed his blood for the flag which had meant only bondage and oppression for his race, though already growing radiant with the promise of liberty. During fifteen of the early years of his freedom (1865 to 1880), I studied him as an employer, a citizen, a lawyer, a judge. I was thoroughly familiar with his status in every portion of one of the Southern States, and since that time had studied it in every State of the South, keeping always uppermost in my mind his view of his past and his hope for the future. I have studied him, I will admit, with growing appreciation. He is a new type, a new MAN. He has sloughed off the African, and is, first of all things, an American—American in instinct and aspiration, as well as largely in blood. In some respects he understands the white man better than the white man understands himself.



AMERICAN PREJUDICE.

While the United States is entreating with Cuba and making terms with the Filipinos, both dark skinned peoples, who do not understand the customs and religions of the United States, the American Negro to the manor born, the most loyal and patriotic of citizens is being yached roasted, disfranchised, and discriminated against in every way. Whither are we drifting?